

Distributed 2/3/84
F B. Constantelos
T D. Stringham
R. Bartelt
K. Klepitsch
M. O'Toole
B. Muno (original)

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



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NEIL F. HARTIGAN
ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS
SPRINGFIELD
62706

January 26, 1984

RECEIVED

The Honorable James Thompson
Governor of the State of Illinois
State House
Springfield, Illinois 62706

JAN 31 1984

EPA REGION 5
OFFICE OF REGIONAL
ADMINISTRATION

Dear Governor Thompson:

On December 26, 1983 my office issued a contract to C-E Raymond to conduct a test burn of cyanide chips which had been recommended by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. This contract was entered into as an accommodation to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency which had stated in court that it had no funds to conduct such a test burn to determine the safety of incineration. My concern is and always has been for the safe disposal of this material which is located in numerous sites around the state.

This contract was entered into only after the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency had issued permits for the test burn and had represented that it was safe.

Last week you announced that the test burn was cancelled. I have informed you that the United States Environmental Protection Agency has indicated that if the test burn is cancelled, the state may lose eligibility for as much as \$3.0 million in federal funding. You indicated that you could arrange with the United States Environmental Protection Agency to have the test burn moved or alternate technology made available. Accordingly, I have informed Raymond that I would honor the State's contractual obligation to pay \$11,600 even though the test burn has been cancelled.

However, I will hold the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency responsible to provide a solution for the disposal of the chips. It is intolerable that the citizens of Lee County and Cook County have lived with this hazardous material in their neighborhoods for seven months without any solution provided by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

O:WMP

cc: R.C.

RF

RA

Lynch

Caravan

OPA

Sincerely,

Neil F. Hartigan
Attorney General